

**THE VALDRIS BOOK;
A MANUAL OF THE
VALDRIS SAMBAND**

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The Valdris Book; A Manual of the Valdris Samband by Andrew A. Veblen

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ANDREW A. VEBLER

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THE AUTHOR

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BY
ANDREW A. VEBLEN

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PREFACE

The Valdris Book is written because some sort of Manual of the Valdris Samband appeared to be required at this time. The undersigned became its author for the reason that there seemed to be no one else available for the undertaking; and he became solely responsible for its contents and its general character, for the further reason that he had no opportunity to secure collaboration in its production.

Those Americans who are in any degree of Valdris strain or descent, doubtless outnumber their kinsmen in the old home valley two or three times over. A considerable number would of course have enjoyed to have the book offered to them in the language of the fathers; but to make the contents accessible to all of them, as well as to the general public, with whom Valdrises will wish to share whatever of special information the volume may contain, it has been written in the language which forms our national medium of expression.

The first chapter, on Valdris, is designed to serve the purpose of introducing the young American Valdris to the ancestral habitat of the fathers, and it is hoped that it may help to stimulate deserved interest in the fair valley that produced our sturdy pioneer forbears.

The bygdelag movement, which has grown out of the kinship feeling between those that have come from a common neighborhood, began among the Valdrises twenty-one years ago. They gave this sentiment concrete expression in their stevne-reunions and in the building up of their "Samband", which stood as a unique, fully evolved type for the "lags" that the other kinship groups formed, when, some years after, they began to emulate the example set by the Valdrises.

This peculiar position of the Valdris Samband among its

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younger sister bygdelags, so interweaves its history with that of the whole movement, that it can not well be isolated for treatment. Hence the outline sketch embodied in the second chapter, which it is hoped will, moreover, be found useful for its own sake inasmuch as a fuller history of the bygdslag movement is not yet available.

The lists of members and of war service people, with the information which they contain, are commended to all concerned for careful scrutiny. They have been compiled with painstaking care, but doubtless they are marred by errors, which in the nature of the case have likely crept in. If corrections are sent to the author, he will endeavor to supply the proper rectifications for the records of the Samband, from which the compilations have been made.

An overlooked omission in copying the manuscript is responsible for the misleading reference to Harold's realm at the top of page 26.

The author wishes to tender his thanks to all who have aided in securing the information concerning those who served in the war, to his colleagues of the Styre for their encouragement and active aid in bringing about the publication of the Valdris Book, and particularly to Mr. Iver Hain, to whose ever unflinching efforts, in these for bookmakers troublous times, is in large measure due the successful issue of the undertaking.

Andrew A. Veblen.

East San Diego, California
June, 1920.

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A MAP OF NORWAY AND OF VALDRIS

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